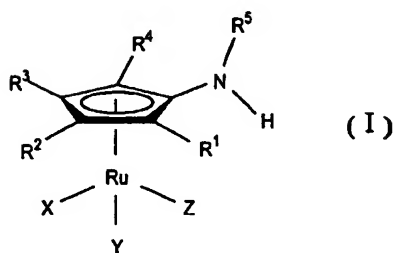


What is claimed is :

1. A ruthenium complex of Formula(I):



wherein:

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are each independently phenyl, substituted phenyl or C_{1-5} alkyl;

R^5 is hydrogen, phenyl, substituted phenyl, C_{1-5} alkyl, substituted C_{1-5} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{2-5} alkenyl or C_{2-5} alkynyl; and

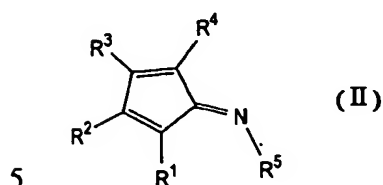
X, Y and Z are each independently hydrogen, halogen, carbonyl or PR^5_3 .

2. The ruthenium complex of claim 1, wherein the substituent of the substituted phenyl is at least one selected from the group consisting of C_{1-5} alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, halogen, nitro, nitroso, amino, aminocarbamyl, hydroxy, mercapto and C_{1-5} alkylthio and the substituent of the substituted C_{1-5} alkyl is at least one selected from the group consisting of aryl, C_{1-5} alkoxy, halogen, nitro, nitroso, amino, aminocarbamyl, hydroxy, mercapto and C_{1-5} alkylthio.

3. The ruthenium complex of claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are each phenyl or C_{1-5} alkyl; R^5 is hydrogen, phenyl, C_{1-5} alkyl or C_{3-7} cycloalkyl; and X, Y and Z substituents are each independently hydrogen, halogen, carbonyl or phosphine.

4. A process for the preparation of the ruthenium complex of claim 1,

which comprises reacting a compound of Formula(II) and a ruthenium compound selected from the group of $\text{Ru}_3(\text{CO})_{12}$, $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{CO})_2(\text{PR}^5)_2$, $[\text{RuCl}_2(\text{CO})_3]_2$, $\text{RuCl}_2(\text{PR}^5)_3$, and RuCl_3 in a solution containing a haloform:



wherein:

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 have the same meanings as defined in claim 1.

10 5. The process of claim 4, wherein the compound of Formula(II) is obtained by reacting a cyclopentadienone in an aprotic solvent in the presence of a primary amine and a Lewis acid.

15 6. The process of claim 4, wherein the primary amine, the Lewis acid and the aprotic solvent are used in amounts of 1 to 7 molar equivalents, 0.1 to 3 molar equivalents and 2 to 20 folds (v/v), respectively, based on the compound of Formula(II).

20 7. The process of claim 6, wherein the reaction is conducted at a temperature in the range of 50 °C to 150 °C.

8. The process of claim 4, wherein the compound of Formula(II) and the ruthenium compound are used in a molar ratio ranging from 1:1 to 3:1.

25 9. The process of claim 4, wherein the reaction is conducted at a temperature in the range of 40 °C to 120 °C.

10. A process for the racemization of a chiral compound, which comprises reacting the chiral compound with the complex of claim 1 in the

presence of a base.

11. The process of claim 10, wherein the chiral compound is a secondary alcohol.